

The Dairyland Insurance Edition

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Week No. 6 October 14, 1983

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Volume 3, No. 17

on the cover...

Turner Gill, hidden behind fullback Mark Schellen, pitches the ball to his 1-back as the Huskers try to do something against a spirited OSU defense.

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STILLWATER, OKLA. — Nebraska's nation-leading offense punched itself out while trying for the knockout, so the top-ranked Cornhuskers turned to a masterful defense to fend off persistent Oklahoma State, 14-10, in the Big Eight opener.

After five consecutive blowouts, harsh reality and a sense of perspective settle on Huskerdom. Nebraska finally was extended to the limit by the formerly unbeaten Pokes. OSU signaled that it would be no waltz from the start when Mike Rozier was dropped for a two-yard deficit on his first carry and Turner Gill, who had not been sacked in five games, was sacked twice in the next two plays. He would suffer two more later.

The Cowboys had Nebraska behind at the half, 10-7, for the first time this season, and the Huskers were not permitted a sigh of relief until safety Bret Clark intercepted a final long pass in the Husker end zone after time had expired.

The blitzing Pokes kept Nebraska reigned in with a mere 42 rushing yards and 135 total yards in the first half. OSU, meanwhile had picked up 227.

A short Larry Roach field goal handed Oklahoma State a brief lead in the second quarter, but Gill then beat the blitz with a slant pass and 62-yard dash by Irving Fryar. OSU countered with a 10-play march that culminated on an Ike Jackson-Jamie Harris 15-yard TD completion when cornerback Neil Harris fell down.

The winner came when Gill rolled left on a bootleg option and hit soph tight end Todd Frain for a 32-yard touchdown early in the third quarter. That held up as the winner as the offense started piling up yards but no further points. Scott Livingston's punting and Jeff Smith's punt returning kept the Pokes in horrid field position, and the defense rose up with three interceptions and shut off the Cowboys with 85 yards in the second half.

While Rozier got his 146 yards and Nebraska eventually outyarded OSU 417-312, scoring frustrations mounted with five fumbles — four lost at the Poke 21, 16 and 36 and in the end zone for a touchback — and an interception at the OSU 1.

TEAM

	NU	OSU
First downs rushing	11	4
		-
Piret down passing	6	8
First downs penalty	3	1
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	20	15
Attempts rushing	59	39
Yards gained rushing	285	159
Yards lost rushing	40	19
NET YARDS RUSHING	245	140
Passes attempted	19	34
Passes completed	10	14
Passes had intercepted	1	5
NET YARDS PASSING	172	172
Total plays	78	7.5
TOTAL YARDAGE	417	312
Interception return yds	0	
Punts-Yards	6-243	8-335
Punting average	40.5	41.9
Punts blocked	0	0
Punt returns-Yards	8-73	2-9
Kickoff returns-Yards	1-26	1-19
Penalties-Yards	6-65	5-47
Pumbles-Fumbles lost	5-4	0-0
TOTAL YARDAGE Interception return yds Punts-Yards Punting average Punts blocked Punt returns-Yards Kickoff returns-Yards Penaities-Yards	417 0 6-243 40.5 0 8-73 1-26 6-65	512 8-535 41.9 0 2-9 1-19 5-47

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS Rushing

NU—Rozier 2.5 carries for 146 yards, 0 TD, 43 yard long gain; Schellen 12 for 45, 0, 15; Fryar 1 for 42, 0, 42; J. Smith 9 for 31, 0, 5; Rathman 1 for 5, 0, 5; Gill 11 for -22, 0, 8.

OSU — Jones 27 carries for 125 yards, 0 TD, 64 yard long gain; Zachary 4 for 17, 0, 7; Jackson 4 for 4, 0, 8; Hilger 2 for 3, 0, 5; Cook 1 for 0, 0, 0; Harris 1 for -9, 0, 0.

PASSING

NU - Qill 19 attempts, 10 completions for 172 yards, 1 int., 2 TD, 62 yard long gain.

OSU — Jackson 20 attempts, 6 completions for 129 yards, 1 int., 1 TD, 29 yard long gain; Hilger 14-6 for 43, 2, 0, 14.

RECEIVING

NU — Pryar 2 receptions for 70 yards, 1 TD, 62 yard long gain; Prain 2 for 40, 1, 32; Rozler 2 for 25, 0, 25; Simmon 2 for 17, 0, 10; Kimball 1 for 16, 0, 16; Engebritson 1 for 6, 0, 6.

OSU — Lewis 4 receptions for 72 yards, 0 TD, 21 yard long gain; Harris 6 for 56, 1, 15; Chesley 1 for 29, 0, 29; Jones 1 for 8, 0, 8; Hanna 1 for 5, 0, 5; Zachary 1 for 2, 0, 2.

PUNTING

NU — Livingston 6 punts for 245 yards, 40.5 average, 55 yard long punt.

OSU — Conway 8 punts for 335 yards, 41.9 average, 50 yard long punt.

ALL RETURNS

NU — Smith 4 punt returns for 48 yards, knox 1 interception return for 11 yards; Pryar 3 punt returns for 21 yards; McCashland 1 interception return for 0; Swanson 1 punt return for 4 yards; Clark 1 interception return for 0; Rozier 1 kickoff return for 26 yards.

OSU - Riley 2 punt returns for 9 yards, Harris 1 kickoff return for 19 yards; Fisher 1

interception return for 0 yards.

DEFENSIVE

NU — McCashland 3 unassisted, 5 assists for 6 tackles: Clark 2-2 for 4; Harris 3-2 for 5; Burke 2-0 for 2; Knox O-15 for 15; Daum O-9 for 9; Graeber O-2 for 2; Keeler O-3 for 5; Herrmann O-2 for 2; Tranmer 1-3 for 4; Stuckey O-4 for 4; Ridder O-3 for 3; Weber 1-4 for 5; Strasburger O-10 for 10; Skow O-1 for 1; Brungardt O-1 for 1; Brungardt O-1 for 1.

OSU — Fisher 0 unassisted, 4 assists for 4 tackles; Hudson 1-3 for 4; Hinds 1-5 for 4; Webb 3-4 for 7; Rockins 6-3 for 9; Montgomery 1-1 for 2; Ham 1-2 for 3; Harding 1-3 for 4; Moore 1-1 for 2; Keith Brown 0-1 for 1: Washington 0-8 for 8; Spencer 0-12 for 12; Monger 3-11 for 14; O'Neal 2-15 for 17; Partida 0-3 for 3; Conway 0-1 for 1; Yancy 0-2 for 2; Riley 1-0 for 1; Blair 0-1 for 1; Crawford 0-2

for 2.

Coach Osborne's Evaluation



'Offensively, we really didn't do anything. So I was very disappointed. They almost doubled the yardage on us in the first half.' Tom Osborne

Nebraska's skimpiest offensive production of the season was the result of a combination of factors — Oklahoma State's talent and enthusiasm and a surprise Missouri-style defensive scheme and some Husker ineptness, Coach Osborne said. The second-half improvement was due to some X and O adjustments at intermission and greater intensity from his players.

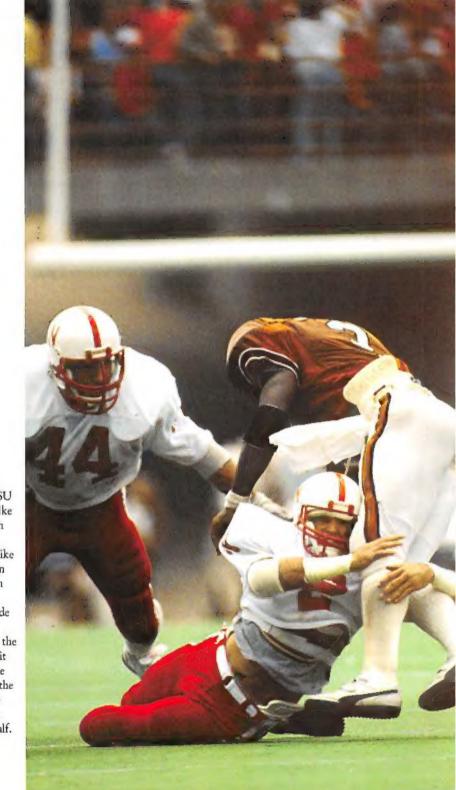
"Oklahoma State has an excellent defensive team and looked pretty decent on offense, too. They played a very emotional game. One thing that bothered us was the fact that you prepare for what you've seen them do, and prior to this game, they had been relatively a non-blitzing football team.

"And we felt that after the Minnesota game (84-13), we had probably climinated the thought of blitzing on the part of most people. But evidently, they had gotten some old Missouri film and seen that Missouri at one time or another had hurt us with some certain types of blitzes.

"They did that early in the game and throughout most of the game, every two or three downs they were coming with some kind of stunt from somewhere. And they varied and changed it up a lot.

"The crowd noise hurt us some, and we were not expecting it. After the first couple of series, Turner (Gill) was picking it up and was able to change the play on occasion," he said.

Both Nebraska touchdown passes came when the Cowboys were blitzing, "but they also



Mike Mc-Cashland (2) wraps up OSU quarterback Ike Jackson, with Husker linebacker Mike Knox (44) on the way with help. Mc-Cashland made his first interception in the contest, and it was a big one as NU kept the Pokes off the scoreboard in the second half.

hurt us some. The thing that was different about them as opposed to Minnesota was that Minnesota would blitz both linebackers, where these guys would blitz a strong safety and maybe one linebacker or weakside cornerback, so they usually had at least one linebackers and a safetyman, some people left. The other thing was that they had good enough athletes that they were able to recover. If they were out of position, they had enough speed and quickness that they could still make the play.

"They're one of the better teams around. Some of it, you've got to give credit to them, some of it was the surprise element, and then some of it, I just don't think we played very

well.

"I don't think we played well at all the first half, either offensively or defensively. Oklahoma State got 10 points and 240 yards on our defense. A lot of that was on a couple of big plays, but still, we've probably got to play better defensively.

"Offensively, other than the pass to Irving (Fryar) that scored, we really didn't do anything. So I was very disappointed. They almost doubled the yardage on us the first half.

"In the second half, I thought we came out and played pretty good football. We really dominated the game. If you took away a couple of turnovers, we probably could have won confortably. Unfortunately, you can't discount the turnovers.

"So the second half, I wasn't too disappointed except for the turnovers and a couple of penalties. We stopped ourselves, probably, more in the second half than Oklahoma State did.

"I thought our defense played a great game the second half, and if they hadn't we would have lost. Our kicking game was very good throughout. The punt returns helped our field position. Our punting and downing the punts helped bottle them up. The second half, they really didn't have any breathing room.

"Another good thing, we were able to play kind of poorly and still win the game against a very good football team in their own backyard with a lot of bad things happening. We sure can't do that this week (at Missouri). I don't think we'll be able to win," he said. The second-half improvement stemmed from what the coaches talked about "adjustment-wise, and I think also that or players came out and played a little harder. I'm not saying they weren't playing hard the first half, but I think they played with a little greater effort the second half.

"Too, Oklahoma State started out with a lot of emotion and was playing on that. And that sometimes will kind of wear off in the course of a game," Osborne said.

More of the same can be expected Saturday at

Missouri, he promised.

"Missouri has had a tendency to blitz against us in the past, and they've had some success. I would look for some of that. But I don't know. I know this, we'll work on it. Last week, we didn't work on it at all.

"Apparently they (Tigers) can play very well. I thought they might win the Colorado game (they did, 59-20), but I thought it would be fairly close, and they just blew them away. And of course, their win over Illinois was a good one. Their other three games probably aren't that impressive.

"But what we have to look at is what they will probably do, which is play very well. They're 1-0 in the conference now, and they always like to play Nebraska and play real well. They'll work real hard this week," he said.

1983 Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Score
Aug. 29	Penn State (at E. Rutherford)	44-6
Sept, 10	Wyoming at Lincoln	56-20
Sept. 17	at Minnesota	B4-13
Sept. 24	UCLA at Lincoln	42-10
Oct. 1	Syracuse at Lincoln	63-7
Oct. 8	at Oklahoma State	14-10
Oct. 15	at Missouri	
Oct. 22	Colorado at Lincoln	
Oct. 29	at Kansas State	
New 5	Inwa State at Lincoln	

Nov. 12 Kansas at Lincoln

Nov. 26 at Oklahoma

Nebraska 14, Oklahoma State 10

Nebraska	. , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	0	7	7	0 - 14
Nebraska		0	10	0	0 - 10
NU-OSU	How They Scored First Quarter No Scoring		Time Left		
	Second Quarter				
0-3	Roach, 26, fleld goal				9:32
	Drive: 63 yards in 9 plays				
7- 3	Fryar, 62 pass from Qlll (Schneider)				8:45
	Drive: 80 yards in 2 plays				
7-10	Harris, 15 pass from Jackson (Roach		1:39		
	Drive: 81 yards in 10 plays				
	Third Quarter				
14-10	Frain, 32 pass from Oill (Schneider k	ick)			9:53
	Drivet 92 yards in 6 plays				

Attendance: 49,600

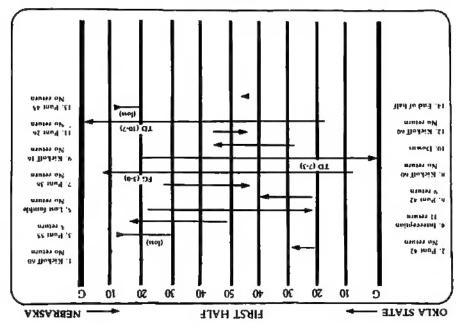
Injury Report

Leg contusions suffered by wingbacks Irving Fryar and Shane Swanson and middle guard Mike Tranmer were considered most serious but apparently not enough to keep them out of the Missouri game.

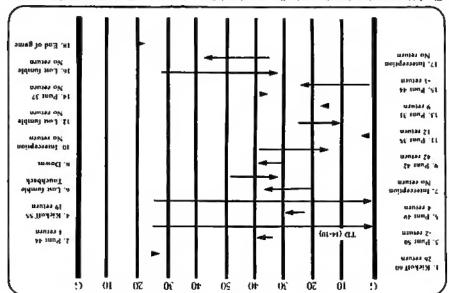
Middle guard Kenny Shead was expected to miss some practice time with a bruised knee, and offensive tackle John Sherlock, who sat out the Oklahoma game with a knee strain, is not expected back for Missouri. "He's probably another week away," trainer George Sullivan said.

"It was a very typical Cowpoke battle, purely lots of bumps and bruises. It's like that every time we play them. I don't even remember the blowouts. All I remember is them (day-after treatments) stacked up," Sullivan said.

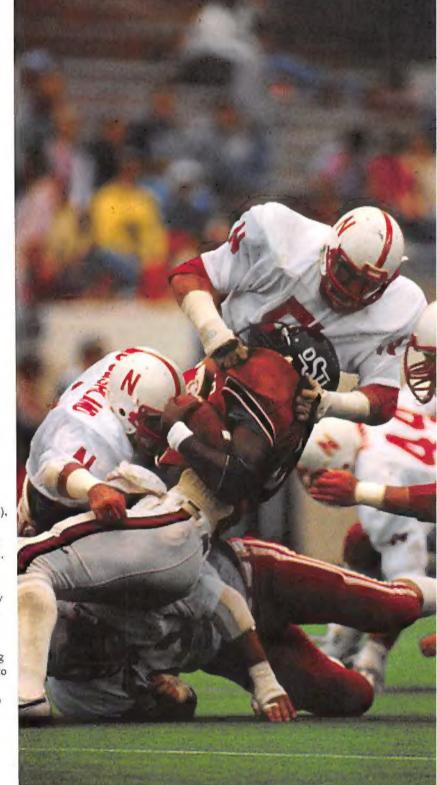
Field Position Chart



SECOND HALF



This field position chair shows how each offerine moved the ball on each possession. The numbers and information down the sale office is team lower the ball stress of the stress of possession and possession of a team lower the ball of the stress of the s



OSU's Shawn Jones is hammered to the ground by a swarm of Huskers, including Mike McCashland (2), Mark Daum (51) and Doug Herrmann (63). The Husker defense had a chance to show that it, too, is of national championship caliber, limiting the Cowboys to 140 yards rushing and no points in the final two quarters.

Lockerroom Chatter

Charlie McBride, defensive coordinator— "These kinds of games give you a chance to check your inventory. In a lot of respects, it was good for us. We'd been in blowouts every week and relaxed the second half. They made us play every second. People are going to have to come down to earth about our team and be a little more realistic. But just because it was 14-10 doesn't mean we aren't a good team. We are a good team.

"That long play (64 yards on third and 10 from the OSU 8 by Shawn Jones in the second quarter) was a perfect play when we were in a bad defense (a draw against an outside blitz). It's the same thing that's been happening to other people when they blitz our offense. It's just a bad call against a perfect play."

Rob Stuckey, defensive tackle — "Chalk up one for the D (defense). We were looking for a game like that, where we'd get tested. You've got to give them (Cowboys) credit. We thought our offense would put it in the end zone more in the second half, but we shut them down pretty well in the second half."

Todd Frain, tight end — Sophomore's winning touchdown reception was only his second catch and second touchdown of the season. The other was against Penn State. His only other catch was for eight yards on third and six while the Huskers overcame a penalty on a drive that ran the clock from 4:16 to :35 in the final quarter. "On the touchdown, I was so wide open, I was worried about keeping my legs under me and not falling down. I was really concentrating on catching the ball because I've had some bad days in practices lately. I don't even remember getting hit. I just saw the goal line and was doing my best to get there.

"On the last drive, that catch was pretty crucial. It was as good as the touchdown to me. I knew I had to catch it. Turner said before the play, 'Watch the under because you're going to be wide open.' Which I was."

Mike Knox, linebacker — He picked up his fourth interception, one short of the school position record, on a richochet off safety Bret Clark and was the leading tackler with 15 stops. "The offense had opportunities to score. They help us out, we help them out. I thought it was somewhat fun out there. It was a new challenge.

"The defense got together last Wednesday and decided to change our image. We don't want people running up and down the field on us. On the interception, give Bret Clark an assist."

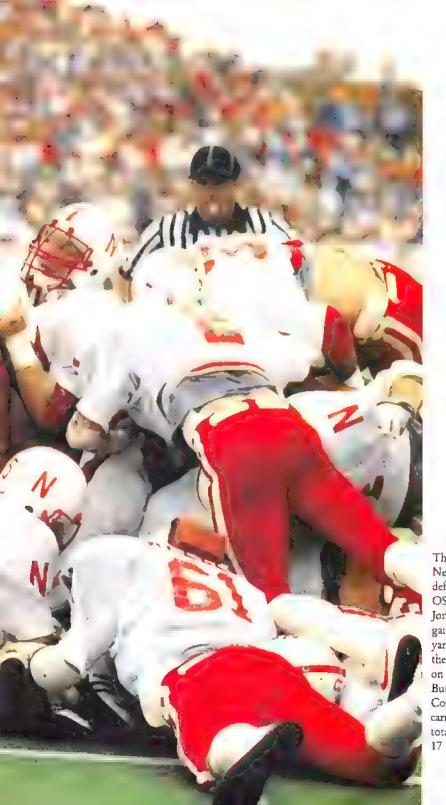
Mike Tranmer, middle guard — "On that last series, I'm sure a lot of Nebraska folks were thinking about Penn State (late loss in 1982) again. It was (Ken) Graeber's turn to be in, and it was frustrating on the sideline. I hurt my ankle early, but you could see from the beginning that it was going to be a defensive game. I said there was no way I could sit it out. I told George (trainer Sullivan) to wrap it up as tight as he could."

Mark Traynowicz, center — They (Cowboys) were stunting at the right time and right place a lot. We were driving on them, and I knew we could keep driving. It shouldn't have been that close. Maybe now people will start saying we have a defense."

Mike McCashland, monster —He picked up his first career interception with a third quarter dive. "We were keeping them in great field position the second half. We let them off the hook earlier before the interception. That was a great feeling, but you can't live on that one big thrill. Our defense has to come up with the image of flying to the football and being big hitters."

Season Stats

					O.D.D.					•		
			N	_	OPP				Scort	ng		
First do				lO	42			70	PAT	2-PAT	PG	77
Pirst do		-	36	3	55		Rozier	11				66
Pirst do		_	7		7		Pryer	5		1-1		32
TOTAL	Pirst	DOWNS		55	104		Schneider		28-30		I-I	31
Attemp	ts rus	hing	37	70	359		CIN	5				30 30
Yards g			g 24	169	949		Schellen J. Smith	5				24
Yards lo	et ru	shing	_ 12	22	211		Frain	2				12
MET YA			2.	547	738		Mason	2				12
Passes	attem	pted	94	•	180		Hiles	2				12
Passes			54		83		Sundberg	2				12
Passes			_	•	11		Burkę	1				6
NET YA				99	1138		Engibrt'sn	1				6
Total pl		THOUSE IN		34	439		Hlemer	1				6
TOTAL		AOR.		346	1816		Knox Livinaston	1	6-6			6
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Punting				5.1	40.5		•					
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Kickoff	retur	ns-Yard		178	35-66				Tacker	Tuckt	es Tuckie	nLoss
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			Yde.	Net		Lana	Keeler Fraeuner		8	0	8	3-12
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Rozier	120		6	905	7.5	71	Reinhardt		2	ā	2	1-2
OIII	58		66	301	4.8	47	Reynolds		4	ā	4	-
Schellen	40	268	2	266	6.7	65	Ridder		9	9	19	3-25
J. Smith	51	253	1	252	4.9	15	Shead		7	4	11	•
Fryer	12	174	0	174	14.5	42	Skow		15	2	17	2-22
Miles	23		0	168	7.3	25	B. Smith		2	0	2	-
Mason	21	153	12	141	6.7	39	Strasburger		7	2 8	19 20	3-10 2-9
Sundberg		75	22	53 27	4.4 3.9	44 7	Stuckey Tranmer		12 10	9	18	2-8
Brungardi Rathman		27 24	0	24	3.0	á	Tucker		4	ī	5	
Porter	Å	17	Ö	17	4.3	5	Tyrer		ĭ	i	2	1-4
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Lindstrom		11	0	11	11.0	1.1	Zierke		2	0	2	2-17
Borer	1	6	0	6	6.0	6	White		2		2	2-17
Divia	3	a	2	6	2.0	4						
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Thompson		3	7	4	-2.0	3	Daum		22	26	48	5-6
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	Att	Com.	Int.	Yda.	Pct.	70	Holloway		6	2	8	•
am	73	45	2	824	57.7	7	Knox		26	28	54	5-22
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Fryar		10	485	26.9	70	4	Casterline		3	1	4	1-7
Kimbali		9	139	15.4	42	0	Clark		16	3	21	-
Simmons		6	57	9.5	13	0	Fisher		5	3	8	•
Roster		5	46	9.2	23 51	0 1	Greene Harris		5 15	6	5 21	-
J. Smith Engibetise		4	77 34	19.3 8.5	19	i	riarris McCashland		15	13	26	1-9
Frain	•	3	60	20.0	32	2	Palge		2	ĭ	3	
		-				-			_	-	-	



The entire Nebraska defense buries OSU's Shawn Jones. Jones gained 125 yards rushing in the contest, 64 on one play. But no other Cowboy ball carrier could total more than 17 on the day.

The Lineups

TWO DEEP

LE

- 8ill Weber, 6-2, 210, 5o 86 Dave Ridder, 6-1, 205, Sr.
 - Mike Keeler, 6-4, 245, 5r.
- Doug Hermann, 6-4, 275, Sr. MO
- Mise Tranmer, 5-11, 230 Sr. Ken Graeber, 6-2, 250, Jr.
- 52 RT
- Hob Stuckey, 6-3, 250, 3r. Jim Show, 6-3, 225, 5c.
- RE Scott Strasburger, 6-1, 205, Jr.

85

67

SLB Mark Daum, 6-3, 235, Jr. 51

Wade Praeuner, 5-11, 200, 5r.

- Chad Daffer, 60, 215, 5c.
- MLB Mike Knox 6-3, 235 Jr.
- Tony Holloway, 6-2, 200, 5o, Nell Harris, 61, 195, Jr.
- 11 Rickey Oreene, 5-9, 175, Jr. MON
- Mike McCashland, 6-1, 195, Jr. Dan Casterline, 5-10, 205, 50.
- Bret Clark, 6-2, 200, Jr.
- Gary Schneider, 5-11, 185, 50. 29 RC

Dave Burke, 5-10, 195, Jr.

- 33 Yodd Fisher, 60, 190, 50.

NEBRASKA MISSOURI **OFFENSE**

SE

- B4 Andy Hill, 5-9, 164, Jr.
- Curtland Thomas, 5-11, 185, Sr.
- Scott Shockley, 6-5, 270, Sr. Dave Kniptash 6-5% 278 So.
- LG Tom Homoff 65, 255 St.
- 74 Jack Bramer 6-2, 255 St. C
- Phil Greenfield, 6-1, 250 Jr. Tony Bruns, 6-2, 242, Sc.
- RG Bernard Laster, 6-17, 267, St.
- Nick Dewellyn, 6-1%, 266 Jr.
- RT
- 76 Contad Coixie, 6-61/2, 267, Sr.
- John Clay, 6-5, 280, fY. TE
- Oreg Brahl 6-4 234 St. Tony Davis, 6-5, 238, Jr.
 - QB
 - Marion Adler, 6-0, 183 Jr. Warren Seitz, 64, 220, So.
- TB Santio Barbosa, 6-0, 203, 50.
- Cameron Riley, 6-1, 191, Pr. 48
 - FB Eric Drain, 6-2, 207, So.
- Eddle Esson, 6-0, 220, Fr. 45 FL

33

99

87 Craig White, 6-2, 196 Sr. 46 George Shorthose 6-1 194 Jr.

NEBRASKA OFFENSE

Ricky Simmons, 5-10, 175, Sr. 88 Scott Kimball, 6-0, 185, Jr.

LT Mark Behning, 6-8, 290 Jr.

- Greg Orton, 6-1, 250, Jr. LG
- Harry Orimminger 6-3 260 Jr. Greg Orton, 6-1, 250 Jr.
- Mark Traynowicz 6-6 260 Jr. Brad Muchling, 6-0, 220, 5r.
- RG Dean Steinhühler, 6-3, 270, Sr.
- Brian Blankenship 6-0, 260, Sc. 30 70 RT
- Scott Raridon, 6-3, 280, Sr. This Roth, 5-11, 260, So.
- TE Monte Engebritson, 6-1, 220, Sr. 34
- Todd frain, 6-2, 215, So. BO QB
- Tumer Cill. 6-0, 190, Sr. Nate Mason, 60, 205, Sr. B
- 18 Mike Rozier, 5-11, 210, Sr. Jeff Smith, 5-9, 190, Jr. 30
- FB Mark Schellen, 5-10, 225, Sr. Tom Rathman, 6-0, 220, 5c. 26
- WB Irving Fryar, 60, 200, 5r. Shane Swanson, 5-9, 195, Jr.
- PAT & FG Dave Schneider 5-7, 175, So. AS. Scott Livingston, 6-2, 200 Jr.
- P Scott Livingston, 6-2, 200 Jr.
- Dan Wingard 6-1, 200, So.

MISSOURI DEFENSE

- 95 Talt Sales 6-2 220 Sr.
- Lenson Staples 6-4, 240 Jr. 61 LT
 - Sleve Runyan, 6-41/a, 245, Jr. Michael Scott, 6-5, 270, Fr.
 - NG Steve Leshe, 6-2, 255, So.
- 93 Mark Morgan 6-4, 245, Jr. RT
- 66 Robert Curry, 6-5, 264, Jr. 97 Pat Burns, 6-4, 261, Jr.
- RE
- Bobby Bell, 6-3, 214, Sr. Eric Troy 6-1, 202, 50
- WLB Tracey Mack, 6-O. 222. Jr.
- Mike Zurweller, 6-1, 228, Fr.
- 51.8 Jay Wilson, 6-3, 215, St.
- 57 Buck Stinson, 6-3, 219, So. LC 20 Terry Matichak 6-2%, 190 dr.
- Jeff Hooper, 6-0, 172, Jr. 21 F5
- 26 Reco Hawkins, 6-2%, 190, Jr. Anthony Prazier 6-3, 187, Pr.
- 10.10 Jerome Caver, 5-10%, 191, Jr.
- Mickey Miller, 6-0, 182, 5o.
- RC
- Wallace Snowden, 5-9, 188, Jr. Jeff Smith, 6-0, 192, Sr.
- Marlon Adler, 6-0, 183, Jr. Todd Richmond, 6-2 195, 5o.
- PAT & FG
- Brad Burditt 6-2 197 Jr. Mike Balota, 6-0 191 Sr.

Nebraska 31, Missouri 14 Huskers Illustrated

Bob Cullinan KETV. Omaha

"Missouri always plays Nebraska tough, especially on television. We all remember what happened last year in Lincoln, but I still don't think Missouri will be in the game.

"Anybody who picks Missouri to win is crazy. Nebraska 56, Missouri 3."

The Huskers Say... Huskers Illustrated

"Some things are new at Mizzou, like wholesale staff changes, remodeled uniforms and a Nebraska-style I-formation instead of the split-back scheme formerly preferred by Head Coach Warren Powers.

Some things never seem to change. The Tigers are still playing upsy-downsy. Up vs. Illinois, Utah State and Colorado and down vs. Wisconsin and, gulp, East Carolina.

"The Huskers catch the Tigers at their place on the heels of an uplighting 59-20 frolic at Colorado. As if that made any difference. That's another thing that never seems to change. There are no love pats when Nebraska and Missouri get together.

Nebraska will see the team that whipped Illinois and Utah State, not the one that was embarrassed by East Carolina.

Mizzou has most of its experience on offense. Junior Marlon Adler, a former walk-on quarter-back, is nervy and makes things happen running or passing. His best two runners are sophomore Eric Drain, the fullback, and Santio Barbosa, the tailback. Tackle Conrad Goode is the two way-shower.

"The defense has some typical Missouri hitters like ends Taft Sales and Bobby Bell, linebacker Jay Wilson and cornerback Terry Matichak. Nebraska will come out of it bruised up for the second straight week, but victorious. Nebraska 31, Missouri 14."

Denny Fuehrer Norfolk, Neb., Dally News.

"I'm like most Nebraska fans; there's that fear in the background that something always seems to go wrong in the Missouri game. Although I think fans up in this neck of the woods think the ex-Nebraska coach has got some voodoo up his sleeve. They also worry about some of the injuries inflicted on Nebraska in the past, but I don't think that will be much of a problem this year. Nebraska should win it pretty easily. Nebraska 35, Missouri 10."

Mike Smith

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

"After beating Illinois in the season opener, Missouri figured to be 5-0 going into the

Nebraska game. Now that the Tigers have plummeted back to earth, their only hope of restoring interest in Mizzou football is by upsetting Nebraska or Oklahoma.

"The Tigers usually save their best for the Cornhuskers, but the day this Missouri tearn is capable of beating Nebraska is the day Warren Powers has something complimentary to say about Tom Osborne. Nebraska 34, Missouri 10.11

Michael Kelly Omaha World-Herald

"You're asking for a prediction from the guy who picked Penn State? All right, I'm game. Missouri will be fired up, as they always are against Nebraska, and the crowd in Columbia will be fired up, too. The game will be tough, but not necessarily close.

"Missouri hasn't scored much, and I don't see that they'll score much against the improving Nebraska defense. Will Nebraska score? Much. Nebraska 42, Missouri 10."

Rich Gosselin UPI, Kansas Citu

"Offensively, Nebraska has one of the greatest units in the history of college football with three All-American candidates in the backfield alone. Seniors Mike Rozier, Irving Fryar and Turner Gill are all rated in the top four at their respective positions by NFL scouts.

"There's not question the Huskers are going to score points; the only hitch in Tom Osborne's plans for his first national championship is his defense. This year's version of the Blackshirts is good, but not great. There aren't any obvious All-Americans on that side of the football. I wouldn't rank this defense with the 1966 Michigan State unit that had Bubba Smith and George Webster or the 1975 Oklahoma unit that had the Selmon brothers and Jimbo Elrod.

"If the defense is good enough to hold down its final two opponents — Oklahoma and whomever Nebraska is likely to play in the Orange Bowl - Osborne will have that elusive national title. The Cornhuskers should coast until those final two games, and that includes Saturday's game at Missouri. The rivalry between Osborne and Missouri coach Warren Powers should keep the score close — but close by this Nebraska team's standard is 28-7."

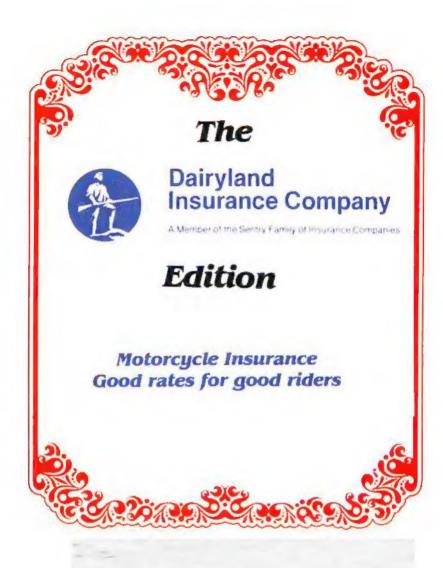
Kevin Gray KFRU Radio, Columbia, Mo.

"The University of Missouri football team hit rock bottom October 1 with a thud not heard in Columbia since Al Onofrio left in 1977. The Tigers could only muster six points against a stubborn East Carolina defense. With this in mind, Head Coach Warren Powers vowed to make changes. Defense has been the strong suit of the Tigers; in fact, they remain nationally ranked.

"But the secondary has been the weak link. Wallace Snowden, a converted tailback, will replace Jeff Smith as a right corner, and Defensive Coordinator Mark Heydorff is hoping that standout defensive end Taft Sales will be healty Saturday.

"The early indications are positive for the Tigers to maintain their intensity defensively going into the Big Eight. Turning to the offense, the Tigers have been steadily going downhill since the Wisconsin game. The major concern is the lack of productivity from the tailback position. In a move to bolster this problem, Coach Powers has moved Santio Barbosa to fullback. He will team with the Tigers' leading rusher thus far, Eric Drain.

"So look for the Tigers to utilize their newfound speed to the outside and to go up top much more in an effort to produce points. For years, Missouri has entered the Big Eight season with an unblemished record, only to fall on their faces in conference play. The '83 version of the Missouri Tigers is full of pride and a tremendous amount of talent. An upset. Missouri 17, Nebraska 13."



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